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longest because they were too unmanageable, and found the scapes to be 40, 42, 43, 44 and 45 inches, and the spikes 17, 18, 19, 21 and 22 inches in length. The branches of the spikes ran from three to ten in number and were from one to two inches in length. These branches nearly always forked again, making quite a dense brush on the end of the spike. The outermost, that is the lowest, branches invariably forked, the others not always. Occasionally it looked as if the original spike had been bitten or broken off and the lateral buds developed into branches to compensate for the loss of the terminal bud. But such arrest of the growth of the terminal bud could not always be made out, and in some specimens it was undoubtedly not the case.—J. M. C.

NOTES FROM WEST VIRGINIA.—During a trip up into West Virginia the first two weeks in July, made for the purpose of botanizing, I found on the banks of the Guyandotte River, near Barboursville, specimens of *Cleome pungens* growing wild. There were between 75 and 100 plants growing in a clump and a few others scattered along. They stood about half way between the water and the river bank, on the top of which was an old deserted house. It was about 50 or 75 feet from the plants and no sign of a garden, or, indeed, of any cultivated ground, was visible around it. They seemed to be perfectly naturalized and were growing finely. As this locality is within the limits of Gray's Manual, the plant deserves a place in that work. I am also informed by Mr. Lloyd, of Covington, that he found a patch of the same plant growing wild near the line of the Cincinnati Southern R. R., a few miles back of Covington.

On the top of the Hawk's Nest, on New River, I found a number of plants of *Corena Conradii*, but not in bloom, and *Cheilanthes lanuginosa*. Gray's Manual gives the habitat of the latter as Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri and westward, and if I am not mistaken in the species, the Mountains of Virginia will have to be added.

Cuphea viscosissima was found in an old field just above the Hawk's Nest.—JOSEPH F. JAMES, Cincinnati, O.

VARIATIONS.—I have found the White Pine with leaves in sixes, some few fascicles in sevens. The sixes were quite abundant. The *Arisaema Dracontium*, Schott., is quite common here with leaflets from 15 to 17, and I have found one with 22 leaflets. The running blackberry is also frequent with flowers quite double and of a pinkish tinge.—N. COLEMAN.

CUSCUTA RACEMOSA.—In the January number of the GAZETTE, Dr. Engelmann gave a warning to the farmers, who wished to cultivate the Alfalfa, or California clover, to beware of the dodder, *Cuscuta racemosa*, which had always accompanied it in Europe and California. The warning was sent, throughout this region, to the county papers, but in spite of it all, seed agents have succeeded in running in a great deal of Alfalfa seed. As a consequence, a short time ago, after the clover had started well, I began to receive specimens of the plant encircled by a "troublesome little vine," and every body wanted to know what it was. It was the genuine *Cuscuta racemosa* in good flower and fruit, and it has come up in every Alfalfa field in this county. The agricultural editors of several widely circulated papers are recommending it and doing what they can to bring this annoying parasite into our fields.—J. M. C.

JEFFERSONIA DIPHYLLA, Pers.—In the vicinity of Hanover, Ind., this interesting plant may be found during the months of March and April, bedecking all the river hills with a profusion of bloom. As it is so abundant on the Ohio bluffs, one would naturally expect to find it abundantly in as favorable localities back from the river, but as yet none have been found except a very few specimens in a single little thicket. Were *Jeffersonia* local along the river its absence from other parts of the county would not

seem so striking. While thus noticing a selected range in reference to dissemination, another peculiarity comes to mind, viz., that on these same hill sides, it seems to select a *zone* of growth. This zone commences about the middle of the hill and with this as a base extends about half way to the top; the plants being most thrifty and abundant on the southern exposures. There is certainly something peculiar in this limit of range, as the lower portions of the hills offer, to all appearances, as favorable conditions for growth as the upper. The same might also be remarked in reference to many localities back from the river.

However the special object of this note is to point out some peculiar effects of cultivation upon this plant. The specimens I have are from the garden of Mr. E. A. Rau, Bethlehem, Penn., and the peculiarities are that *the leaves are prominently 4 to 5 lobed—lobes acute and mucronate*. I have just examined some 40 specimens collected here with the following results: 80 per cent *entire to undulate*, and 20 per cent *distinctly toothed*; in no specimens that I have ever seen have the leaves appeared lobed. We further notice that the leaves of the cultivated *Jeffersonia* are 4 to 5 times as large as those found in the woods and the pod is also much larger and heavier. The flowers the writer has never seen, but would infer that they were also much larger. I take the liberty to append a note from Mr. Rau in reference to this plant. He says, "The *Jeffersonia* was taken from the garden of Mr. Jacob Wolle, of Bethlehem, Penn., and as the plant has been detected by Mr. Wolle near Narrowsville, Bucks county, along the Nockamixon rocks, this may be the source of the specimens of which we write." Mr. Rau further adds that however uncertain the length of time this has been cultivated by Mr. Wolle, he knows it to have been under cultivation more than 12 years. Doubtless many others have noticed variations as a result of cultivation and failed to give publicity to their observations. But it seems to me both interesting and profitable to notice such marked effects as the one just described.—A. H. YOUNG, Hanover, Ind.

NATURAL GRAFTING.—Some five miles north-west of Hanover I was surprised to find a good-sized tree of *Carpinus Americana*, or Water Beech, apparently growing on the trunk of *Fagus ferruginea*, or the common Beech. A closer examination showed that the trees had started close together, and instead of one crowding the other out, they had coalesced, their bark had become continuous, and below where they fork it is impossible to tell which is which. The fork looks like a regular branch, the Water Beech coming out at quite an angle, according to its usual habit.—J. M. C.

HABENARIA PERAMCENA, GRAY.—This showy Orchid has added much of beauty to our collections this summer. Orchids are exceedingly scarce in this range, and hence the advent of one in any quantity is most welcome to botanists. Now, the very interest and peculiar attractiveness of this plant this year lies in its abundance. It was first found here by the writer in July 1873, and has not been seen since by him, although I believe others have collected a very few specimens. Now this year it appears in considerable abundance both in the old locality and in many new ones, which in past years have been tramped over again and again without any finds. It is hardly reasonable to suppose seeds have been borne to six or seven localities, as many miles apart, during the past year, and, on the other hand, if these plants have lain dormant so long there is much interest in a rest of such long duration.—A. H. Y.

SPERMACOCE GLABRA, MICHX.—We are glad to be able to record the rediscovery of this desirable plant. In 1870 it was named in the list of Mr. A. H. Young, as growing in Jefferson county on the river bank. As no specimens were saved, the discovery was practically of no value, and after repeated searches along the river bank doubt began to arise in our minds whether we really were entitled to the plant or not. In 1874, in my incom-